



HR0815

LRB104 21518 LAW 36868 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Memorial Wall for the fallen heroes of the  
3 Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) was first unveiled  
4 on May 10, 2001; and

5 WHEREAS, IDOC chose to place the Memorial Wall on the  
6 grounds of the IDOC Training Academy in Springfield, which is  
7 on leased land that the State of Illinois does not own; and

8 WHEREAS, IDOC is now in the process of vacating those  
9 grounds; and

10 WHEREAS, Consequently, the area surrounding the Memorial  
11 Wall is boarded up and strewn with broken glass, making it  
12 completely unsuitable for public visitation; and

13 WHEREAS, IDOC's departure from these grounds requires a  
14 reassessment of the location of the Memorial Wall; and

15 WHEREAS, Funds are available to contribute towards the  
16 movement of the current Memorial Wall or the establishment of  
17 a new Corrections Memorial through the contributions of  
18 corrections employees to the Illinois Correctional Employees  
19 Memorial Association; and

1 WHEREAS, The Illinois State Capitol grounds feature two  
2 permanent memorial structures to Illinois' firefighters and  
3 police officers who have lost their lives on the job; and

4 WHEREAS, Correctional officers have an average life  
5 expectancy of only 59 years, with rates of suicide 39% higher  
6 than the national working-age population and rates of  
7 depression significantly higher than the national average; and

8 WHEREAS, Across all states and over more than two  
9 centuries, Illinois has the third-highest number of  
10 correctional officers who have lost their lives in the line of  
11 duty; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
13 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
14 we urge the Illinois Department of Corrections and the Office  
15 of the Architect of the Capitol to establish a Corrections  
16 Fallen Heroes Memorial on the State Capitol grounds; and be it  
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That we recognize the inherent danger and risk  
19 that correctional employees confront daily while serving a  
20 critical public safety mission, and we affirm that the State's  
21 fallen heroes are deserving of a public memorial honoring the  
22 sacrifice they made.